

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 04808 291446Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SW, OEXC

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF NORDIC METALWORKERS VISIT TO U.S.

REF: STOCKHOLM 4795

1. OCTOBER 27 EDITION OF DAGENS NYHETER CARRIED BRIEF ARTICLE ON INSIDE PAGE RE CANCELLATION OF NORDIC METALWORKERS' TRIP TO U.S. IT SAID AS FOLLOWS: "A 26-MEMBER NORDIC METAL- WOKEK DELEGATION HAS CANCELLED A PLANNED U.S. TRIP. THE REASON IS THAT ONE OF THE FINNISH DELEGATES HAS BEEN REFUSED A VISA BECAUSE HE IS A COMMUNIST. THE NORDIC METALWORKERS' SECRETARIAT WAS INVITED TO THE U.S. BY THREE GREAT UNIONS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY: AUTOMIBLE, STEEL AND AIRPLANE WORKERS' UNIONS. WHEN ALL PREPARATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED, THE MESSAGE CAME THAT ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE U.S. 'THIS SETTLED THE MATTER,' SAID SWEDISH METALWORKERS' VICE-PRESIDENT SVEN WEHLIN, WHO WAS TO LEAD THE DELEGATION. 'WE MUST PRESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE MEMBERS OF OUR OWN DELEGATIONS. THE AMERICAN UNIONS HAVEREGRETTED WHAT HAS HAPPENED AND UNDERSTAND OUR POSITION'."

2. SUBJECT WAS ALSO MENTIONED PREVIOUS DAY ON TV NEWS PROGRAM. IN ADDITION TO GIVING FACTS, REPORT SUGGESTED
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THAT USG HAD PAID ATTENTION TO AFL-CIO VIEWS ON MATTER

ADDING BY WAY OF EXPLANATION THAT AFL-CIO WAS NOT
FRIENDLY TO UAW, ONE OF THE SPONSORING UNIONS. THIS
WAS SAID AGAINST BACKDROP OF PICTURES OF GEORGE MEANY
AND LEONARD WOODCOCK. LATTER WAS REPORTED TO HAVE
EXPRESSED REGRET ABOUT DECISION NOT TO ISSUE VISA.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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